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TAGS: <u>EAIR</u> <u>ETRD</u> <u>ECON</u> <u>HR</u>

SUBJECT: Open Skies Agreement Reached With Croatia

A State-DOT delegation initialed an Open Skies agreement with Croatia on March 13 after two days of talks in Zagreb. This was the second round of negotiations on Open Skies, the first being held in Washington from Sept 27-28, 2007. Conclusion of this agreement caps two years of steady efforts to secure GOC support and achieves a key goal of post's Mission Strategic Plan. This agreement lays the foundation for the further development of our civil aviation relationship with Croatia. Post will remain actively engaged in these issues with the GOC to help make sure that the traveling publics of both of our countries can reap the benefits of this agreement.

BRADTKE